

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Gilson, et al.  
Title: PROBE TIP ALIGNMENT FOR  
PRECISION LIQUID HANDLER  
Appl. No.: 10/737,171  
Filing Date: 12/16/2003  
Patent No.: 6,901,819  
Confirmation No: 4461

**ASSERTION OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
AND REQUEST FOR REFUND**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.27(c)(1), Applicant hereby asserts entitlement to small entity status in the above-identified application.

Not more than three months ago, on Friday, December 5, 2008, Applicant paid a maintenance fee in the amount of \$980.00 to cover the 3 1/2 year U.S. Maintenance Fee under 37 CFR 1.20(e) for this patent at the large entity rate. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.28(a), Applicant hereby requests a refund of \$490.00, which is 50% of the maintenance fee paid (i.e. the "excess amount"). Please credit this amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date February 24, 2009

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By 

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